

DEATHS FROM ASPHYXIATION

Gas System Had Been Out of Order in Raleigh, Where Three Were Killed—Chief Justice Shepherd's Postscript

(Special Star Correspondence.) Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 6.—The remains of the three men, R. A. Johnson, H. T. Porter and Fred Jernigan, of Benson, Johnston county, who were found last night in a room in the Wilson Apartments, are being held here at the undertaking establishment of J. H. Brown Co., for the relayed arrival of relatives of the men from Benson.

They were to have reached here on an early morning train, but failed to show up. Investigation has developed the fact that the gas supply in the Wilson Apartments was out of order Sunday night and Monday morning until the gas company sent a man to blow accumulated water out of the pipes. For some time people all over the city have had trouble from this accumulation of water in the pipes that prevents or greatly reduces the flow of gas. The pipes were blown out Monday forenoon. It is believed now that when the three men went to their room Sunday night they tried to light the gas and this clogging of the pipes prevented the flow of gas and in the confusion the heater and the jet were both left turned on. There is no clerk in the apartments to whom complaint could be made. They failed to notice the slight flow of gas that probably sickened them as the night advanced. There is evidence that some groaning was heard early Monday morning, but not enough, it seems, to have caused an investigation. Then Monday morning when the pipes were blown out by the gas men the full flow of gas swept into the room and completed the asphyxiation. That the smell of the gas did not penetrate the entire building to a very noticeable degree is accounted for by the fact that the rooms the young men had were on the top floor, with close-fitting doors and an outside window through which there was considerable opportunity for the gas to escape, although the window was closed.

The report that R. A. Johnson was to have been married Monday to Miss Edna Weeks, the young lady who came with them in the automobile from Benson Sunday, which comes from a man who lives in the home of Oscar Haswell, where she visits here, adds a touching bit of romantic human interest to the case.

Coroner Seaparks has decided to hold an inquest over the bodies of the three men, the cause of their death being so clearly accidental.

Fred Jernigan was a son of the proprietor of the Central Hotel at Benson. R. A. Johnson has been in the grocery business until lately and was entering the live stock business. Porter was only about 16 years of age, a son of Nathan Porter, of Benson.

G. Jernigan, Thomas Johnson and Nathan Porter, fathers of the three young men who were found dead of asphyxiation last night in the Wilson Apartments, arrived here this morning and have taken the necessary preliminary steps for having the coroner hold an inquest. The deaths seemed so clearly accidental that the coroner did not feel warranted in calling in a jury without affidavit, asking for this course which was made. The victims left Benson, it seems, for Raleigh Sunday at 12:15 o'clock, Jernigan running the machine which he and his father operated in connection with the Central Hotel they ran.

There is confirmation from the report that R. A. Johnson, one of the victims was to have been married yesterday to Miss Edna Weeks who, with Miss Mary Haswell, were the girls in the party that came from Benson in the automobile. Miss Weeks is a daughter of Will Weeks, police officer at Benson. The fathers of the three young men are insisting that there must have been some foul play in connection with the death of their sons, as they were entirely too well informed to be victimized through ignorant manipulation of gas fixtures.

A splendid oil painting of the lamented former Chief Justice, James E. Shepherd was presented to the North Carolina Supreme Court this morning, the address, a fine tribute to the personality and official and professional career of Judge Shepherd, being delivered by former Governor Charles B. Aycock. The court room was crowded with people representing State officials and the social life of the city. Judge Shepherd was a member of the Supreme Court bench from July 1st, 1889, to January 1st, 1895, and was chief justice of the court from November, 1892 to January 1st, 1895. The portrait was accepted by the court through Chief Justice Walter Clark, who endorsed the high tribute paid by Gov. Aycock.

The Bernhardt Manufacturing Co., of Lenoir, was chartered today with \$125,000 capital authorized and \$20,000 subscribed by J. M. Bernhardt and others.

Adjutant R. L. Linstar, of the North Carolina National Guard, has made requisition on the War Department for equipment supplies for one troop of cavalry under a provision of the Department that such equipment for one troop in each State can be had in addition to the general apportionment from the department for equipping the guard in the State. The troop of cavalry is to be organized at Lincoln where the troop is already temporarily organized under the leadership of W. A. Fair. It is to consist of a minimum of 48 men and each member is to furnish his own horse, saddles, carbines, revolvers and blankets, in addition to other minor equipment, valued at \$6,000.

There are coming in to the State Department of Agriculture every day inquiries from many parts of the country as to the conditions in Western Carolina for apple and other fruit growing and in Central and Eastern Carolina for trucking, these inquiries being from prospective settlers and from agricultural and horticultural journals gathering information for patrons of their country over. It is stated at the department here that there were probably never in the history of the State so many evidently really interested inquiries and the indications are for some really considerable acquisition in the way of desirable home-owning settlers in the

HOMICIDE IN SAMPSON COUNTY

Negros on Wild Rampage—Much Cotton Being Sold—Centenarian Passes—Assignment of Merchant.

(Special Star Correspondence.) Clinton, N. C., Feb. 6.—A homicide is reported from the country, occurring Sunday when a number of negroes tanked up on whiskey and became involved in a difficulty. Although it was Sunday, a visitor took his shotgun with him to a neighbor's where the trouble arose between him and another visitor.

After a number of salutes had been fired, Arthur McLaurin, who was flourishing his gun, was shot from inside a house by Ed Herring, another negro and instantly killed. He lay where he fell until Monday when the coroner was called and held an inquest. The evidence showed apparent malice and previous threats upon the part of Herring, who has fled and is at large. The dead negro recently came here from Maxton, and his body was shipped there for burial.

When cotton struck ten cents Friday, some 6,000 bales were bought on the phone by Clinton buyers and the heavy receipts averaging some 400 bales per day have been congesting the platform space at the depot since. There has been a great block of wagons from the station reaching almost back into town and the weigher has been taxed to his utmost. More cotton was received today than could be weighed and much of it was left over to be weighed tomorrow.

W. B. McGowan, a merchant of Turkey, near here, has made an assignment, naming H. A. Grady, an attorney of Clinton, as assignee. It is said that his liabilities are about \$2,500 and that his assets are more than double that amount. The assignment was procured by the pressure of certain creditors who had become restless. It is believed that Mr. McGowan will be able to make some arrangement by which he will satisfy his creditors and resume business soon with very little interruption.

Mrs. Edith Williamson died near here today in the 100th year of her age. She was born in 1812 and was the widow of Page Williamson, who died 36 years ago. She leaves more than 200 direct descendants, including children, grand-children and great-grand-children.

The benefits of the storage warehouse have been manifested here this season. Some 500 bales of cotton stored by farmers two months ago were sold at 10 cents this week at a profit of more than \$1,000 to those who stored rather than sell at the current market. The assignment was procured by the pressure of certain creditors who had become restless. It is believed that Mr. McGowan will be able to make some arrangement by which he will satisfy his creditors and resume business soon with very little interruption.

Sampson county farm lands are in great demand and many new-comers from other sections are buying lands here. This is one of the few undeveloped counties of the State whose natural resources are just beginning to be recognized and appreciated.

AN ENCOURAGING FORECAST.

The Cold Wave to be Followed by Milder Weather.

Washington, Feb. 5.—Bitterly cold weather will visit the Eastern and Southern States the first of this week, but there will be little snow or rain. The weekly forecast of the Weather Bureau tonight can see nothing but pleasant weather conditions generally after the cold wave shall have passed. The forecast says:

Unseasonably cold weather the first two days of the week in the Eastern and Southern States will be followed by a reaction to higher temperature in these regions by the middle of the week. Over the Middle West, the Rocky Mountain region and the Pacific slope, temperatures during the week will average near or above the normal. There are no indications at the present time that another cold wave will cross the country during the coming week.

The weather during the week will be generally fair, except for a short period of snows and rains attending a disturbance that will appear in the Far West on Tuesday or Wednesday, cross the Middle West about Thursday and the Eastern States Friday or Saturday. Frequent rains are probable during the coming week in the North Pacific States.

Stormy weather is likely to continue the coming week over the North Atlantic steamship routes and Europe. Richmond, Va., Feb. 5.—The first test of strength in the General Assembly on the question of State-wide prohibition was shown today when the House Committee on Privileges and Elections reported unfavorably on the Jordan bill, which provides that a State election shall be held when one-fourth of the qualified voters so petition the Governor. The bill will go on to the House calendar tomorrow with an adverse report.

It is thought that the fine showing that the State has made in winning prizes at the National Horticultural congresses the past two years is having a very considerable effect in catching and holding the attention of the people the country over. The North Carolina Bar Association has selected Morehead as the place for the meeting of the North Carolina Bar Association and July 3rd to 5th as the date. At this meeting there is to be definitely launched a campaign to get through the next legislature a bill which will materially change the rules of practice and general judicial system of the State.

If Your Head Aches You should Take the Sure Remedy Hicks' CAPUDINE

There's a cause for every headache—Capudine reaches that cause quickly, whether it be heat, cold, grippe, or stomach troubles—and next, even though it be sick or nervous headache. Capudine is the surest remedy for Colds and Grippe, Headaches, Aches and Nervousness disappear and normal conditions are restored. Capudine is liquid—easy and pleasant to take—acts immediately. 50c, 75c and 50c drug stores.

"ON THE POINT"

Cold Wave in Evidence—Agricultural and Other Notes

(Special Star Correspondence.) Rocky Point, N. C., Feb. 6.—The cold wave reached here on time Sunday morning and continues in full force. The radishes have never come up yet—frozen germs, while garden peas show a fairly good stand. The peanut crop is about all marketed; possibly 10 per cent of it is yet in the farmers' hands, a good portion of which will be used for seed purposes.

The Wilmington Spoke and Handle Factory has Mr. Robert King here superintending loading flat cars with hickory. They will cut nearly 400,000 feet in the woods adjacent the depot. Some of these trees show immense size and their growth indicates rich, alluvial soil underlain with rich phosphatic lime.

The farmers' institute was held at Burgaw today and was fairly well attended. Mrs. Thos. J. Armstrong, of Rocky Point, as usual, took the first prize for best loaf of bread.

Mr. J. D. Hanchey is erecting a large curing plant for bulbs, tube roses and plant roots of a kindred nature. He raises unusually fine specimens and will go extensively in this line of farming. This is real hog-killing weather and quite a lot have been recently slaughtered. Judge O. H. Allen spent Sunday here with old friends and schoolmates and enjoyed a fine day of rest after his arduous week's work in New Hanover court. There is no better or more kind-hearted judge in North Carolina. He has never forgotten the old Duplin heart, handshake and his first love, bacon and collards.

Two young farmers, Messrs. Boyd and Burkhead, from Hamlet, are at work on the French plantation. Mr. Neill McEachern is preparing to farm on a large scale and is buying the latest improved machinery. E. D. F.

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Sloan's Liniment has a soothing effect on the nerves. It stops neuralgia and sciatica pains instantly.

Here's Proof

Mrs. C. M. Dwyer of Johannesburg, Mich., writes: "Sloan's Liniment is the best medicine in the world. It has relieved me of Neuralgia, sciatica, rheumatism, and all kinds of pains. I can truly say your Liniment did it all."

Mr. Andrew F. Lear of 50 Gay Street, Cumberland, Md., writes: "I have used Sloan's Liniment for Neuralgia and I certainly do praise it very much."

SLOAN'S LINIMENT

is the best remedy for rheumatism, backache, sore throat and sprains.

At all dealers. Price 25c., 50c. and \$1.00



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Quickest and Best Line West and North. Block System. Rock Ballast. 28-lb. Steel Scales in Effect February 12, 1912.

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Chesapeake and Ohio Railway

SCENIC ROUTE TO THE WEST. Two Fast Vestibule Trains With Dining Car Service. Through Pullman Sleepers to Louisville, Cincinnati, Chicago and St. Louis.

FOR SOUTHPORT (By Harper Steamboat Line.) STEAMER WILMINGTON

Leave Wilmington daily at 10:00 A. M. Leave Southport daily at 2:30 P. M.

Advertisement for Western Union Telegraph Company. Text: Men who grasp opportunity use the telegraph letter to further their business. Western Union "Day Letters" and "Night Letters." THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY

Advertisement for J. W. H. Fuchs. Text: BARGAINS For Wednesday and Thursday at J. W. H. Fuchs' Big Sale. Ladies' Shirt Waists, positively worth \$1.25, only 69c. See them in the show window. One lot of Ladies' Shirt Waists, values up to \$2.00, for 89c. \$1.25 Hand Bags, 59c. Clothing, Shoes, Furnishings and Dry Goods Will Be Slaughtered. Don't Fail to Inspect Our Prices. J. W. H. FUCHS 28 S. FRONT ST., WILMINGTON, N. C. Look for the large green sign on front of store.

Advertisement for Peterson & Ruffs. Text: A SKUFFER BOY Get your boy a pair of SKUFFER SHOES the most comfortable and best wearing shoe made. Peterson & Ruffs -AT- NEXT TO MURCHISON BANK.

Advertisement for Peck & Holloway. Text: PECK & HOLLOWAY 109 N. Front St. NOW OPEN FOR BUSINESS EVERYTHING IN HARDWARE Call Phone No. 612 for What You Want and It Will Be Sent You. SERVICE AND QUALITY

ATLANTIC COAST LINE Arrivals and Departures of Trains at Wilmington, Effective January 1st, 1912. Time Not Guaranteed. Table with columns for DEPARTURES, TO AND FROM, and ARRIVALS.

SUBURBAN SCHEDULE IN EFFECT DECEMBER 4, 1911. Winter Park, Wrightsville, Wrightsville Beach and Intermediate Points. Table with columns for EAST BOUND and WEST BOUND, listing departure and arrival times.

SPECIAL FOR SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS. Leave Wilmington every half hour from 2:00 until 5:30 P. M. Leave Beach every half hour from 2:45 until 5:45 P. M.

Advertisement for Clyde Steamship Company. Text: SEABOARD Air Line Railway SCHEDULE to NEW YORK and GEORGETOWN, S. C. Includes freight schedule and contact information.

Advertisement for OSTEOPATHY. Text: DR. J. R. KEISER OSTEOPATHY Specialist Nervous Diseases. Office—Carolina Apartment House. Office Hours—9 to 12 and 3 to 5.